

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ROUTING SLIP

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
2	DDCI				
3	EXDIR		x (2 cys)		
4	D/ICS		x		
5	DDI				
6	DDA	x			
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T		x		
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/OLL				
15	D/PAO				
16	SA/IA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPD/OIS				
19					
20					
21					
22					
	SUSPENSE			Date	

Remarks

ER copy.

Executive Secretary

2 Oct 34

Date

3637 (10-81)

Executive Registry

84 - 9341

2 October 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Commercial Data Bases

1. In talking to one of your former colleagues today, [redacted] he mentioned the wealth of information available in commercial data bases. We are all well aware of the commercial data bases that one may subscribe to but [redacted] spoke of the extensive data bases that are maintained in-house for in-house use only by various companies. In his case they are feeding political, economic as well as technical capabilities of various countries into this data base. Maybe we could [redacted]

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2. [redacted] also made reference to a number of companies around the U.S. who are, in essence, intelligence organizations on various countries who sell their reports and recommendations to customers. While I didn't ask him for the litany of names, that too may be something we should try and tap into. For example, [redacted] doing an assessment on the [redacted] to see what events may transpire over the next ten years which will impact on a decision to invest another \$100 million in a plant there. [redacted] looking at the technical capabilities and work force for accomplishing their job as well as the economics involved, i.e., cost/benefit trade-off. [redacted] is having some heavy thinkers look at whether or not the political scene will permit such a company operation--if so with what restrictions or caveats. He is not trying to predict what will happen [redacted] but whether the political structure, whatever it is, will tolerate a viable foreign investment.

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3. Some food for thought.

[redacted]
John N. McMahon

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cc Executive Director
DDO

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XFL-205A